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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: **Masayoshi ESASHI et al.**

Group Art Unit: **Unknown**

Application Number: **10/582,355**

Examiner: **Unknown**

Filed: **June 9, 2006**

Confirmation Number: **1537**

For: **ACTIVE TUBE AND ACTIVE TUBE SYSTEM**

Attorney Docket Number: **062648**

Customer Number: **38834**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 3, 2006

Sir:

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants direct the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office to the documents listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. This paper is being filed within the time periods set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b). A copy of each non-U.S. document is enclosed herewith.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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SMD/dlt

Enclosures: PTO/SB/08  
1 Document



Combined Form PTO/SB/08A&B

# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/582,355
Confirmation Number	1537
Filing Date	June 9, 2006
First Named Inventor	Masayoshi ESASHI et al.
Art Unit	Unknown
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	062648

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## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US			
		US			
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## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
	1	JP	11-48171 A		02-23-1999	Previously cited in IDS filed 06-09-2006	
	2	JP	2002-143312 A		05-21-2002	Previously cited in IDS filed 06-09-2006	
	3	JP	3-86144 A		04-11-1991	Previously cited in IDS filed 06-09-2006	
	4	JP	5-31066 A		02-09-1993	Previously cited in IDS filed 06-09-2006	

## **NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
	5	Translation of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability of International Application No. PCT/JP 2004/018855, with Form PCT/IB/373 and Form PCT/ISA/237	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.